

## REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-10 and 23-31 are pending in the application. The rejected claims were rejected as follows:

Claims / Section	35 U.S.C. Sec.	References / Notes
1-3, 5, 7-10 and 23-24 & 31	§103(a) Obviousness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tamura, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,861,577); and</li><li>• Steele, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,439,031).</li></ul>
1-3, 5, 7-10 and 27-28 & 31	§103(a) Obviousness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gurevich, et al. (U.S. Patent No. RE 33,137); and</li><li>• Steele, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,439,031).</li></ul>
30	§103(a) Obviousness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tamura, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,861,577); or</li><li>• Gurevich, et al. (U.S. Patent No. RE 33,137); and</li><li>• Steele, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,439,031); and</li><li>• Grawey, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,148,077).</li></ul>

5         Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claim 29 in the present OA. Based on this indication, Applicants have added the limitations of claim 29 to all independent claims of the application, which include claims 1, 23 and 28. Based on this Amendment, all claims in the application contain subject matter indicated by the Examiner as being allowable.

10

## CONCLUSION

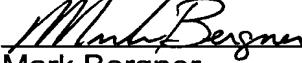
Inasmuch as each of the objections have been overcome by the amendments, and all of the Examiner's suggestions and requirements have been satisfied, it is respectfully requested that the present application be reconsidered,

Appl. No. 10/003,756  
Reply to Office Action of August 18, 2005

the rejections be withdrawn and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

5

 (Reg. No. 45,877)  
Mark Bergner  
SCHIFF HARDIN, LLP  
PATENT DEPARTMENT  
6600 Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6473  
(312) 258-5779  
Attorney for Applicants  
Customer Number 26574

10

15

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 13, 2005.

20



25